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REMARKS

A check in the amount of \$200 dollars is enclosed to cover the official fee, on the small entity basis, for two (2) independent claims in excess of three (3) independent claims.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 15 is rejoined but claims 9, 11, 12, 14 and 16-18 still remain withdrawn from consideration.

Claim 7 is objected to for the reasons noted in the official action. The above requested amendments to claim 7 are believed to overcome all of the raised informalities concerning that claim.

Next, claims 5, 13, 15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for the reasons noted in the official action. The rejected claims are accordingly amended, by the above claim amendments, and the presently pending claims are now believed to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention, thereby overcoming all of the raised § 112, second paragraph, rejections. The entered claim amendments are directed solely at overcoming the raised indefiniteness rejection(s) and are not directed at distinguishing the present invention from the art of record in this case.

Claims 1, 4, 6-10 and 19-20 are then rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Sichak '113 in view of Tayar '163. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised obviousness rejection in view of the following remarks.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s). In accordance with this indication, claims 2 and 3 are both appropriately revised, to be independent claims, and those two amended independent claims are now believed to be allowable. As claims 4-8, 10 and 15 depend, either directly or indirectly, from either of these new independent claims, those dependent claims are believed to be allowable as well.

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The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 5, 13 and 15 would be allowable if appropriately amended to overcome the raised 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph rejections. In accordance with this indication, claim 13 is appropriately revised to be an independent claim, and that amended independent claim is also now believed to be allowable.

With respect to claims 19 and 20, both of those independent claims are amended to recite that allowable subject matter of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, claims 19 and 20 are both now believed to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 2 is allowable.

In view of the above claim amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that further comments concerning the applied prior art of Sichak '113 and Tayar '163 is not believed necessary. The Applicant also notes the remaining prior art cited in the official action. As none of that additional art is applied by the Examiner against the claims of this application, the Applicant is not providing any comments concerning that art as well.

While claims 9, 11, 12, 14 and 16-18 are withdrawn from consideration, in an effort of expedite prosecution in this application, necessary amendments are made to those claims to provide consistency with the amended independent claims and/or overcome noted informalities contained therein.

If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

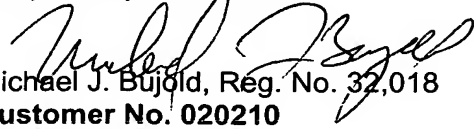
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the raised rejection(s) should be withdrawn and this application is now placed in a condition for allowance. Action to that end, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited by the Applicant at this time.

The Applicant respectfully requests that any outstanding objection(s) or requirement(s), as to the form of this application, be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is indicated for this case.

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In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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